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V. An Account of a new Species of Fungus, by John Martyn, F. R. S. Prof. Bot. Cantab. communicated in a Letter to the Prefident.

Read Jan. 24. N the latter Part of the Summer of the Year 1744, Mr. Ehret the Painter brought me a Fungus of a very extraordinary Shape and Size, which had been found growing on a Piece of the Trunk of an Elm, in a damp Cellar in the Hay-Market.

The whole Plant was about two Feet in Height; and, at first Sight, seemed not very unlike the Horns of some Deer, being variously branched, and covered with a thick Down. It was of a spongeous Substance, and of a dusky-red Colour inclining to Black. The Tips of the smaller Branches were of a Cream-The larger Branches, or rather the Tops Colour. of the whole Plant, were expanded in Form of a Funnel, smooth on the concave, and full of Pores on the convex Side. The inner and lower Part of the Funnel was of the fame Colour with the Stalk; the rest of it was of a Cream-Colour.

I have not been able to find, that this Plant has been mentioned by any Author; and am persuaded, that it is a new Species; and, perhaps, the remarkable Branching of the Stalks may induce some to think it a new Genus. As the Funnel may be esteemed a Cap, and as this Cap is not lamellated, it will be a Boletus, according to the Method observed in the Third Edition of Ray's Synopsis. According to

Micheli.

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Micheli, it seems to belong to the Genus of Polyporus. This Method, which I have long used in the Distribution of this Class, is expressed in the following synoptical Table, which, I think, comprehends all the Species hitherto known.

FUNGI funt,

·lamellari,

Scauliferi; AMANITA. Effiles; AGARICOIDES.

porofi,

Scauliferi; BOLETUS. fessiles; BOLETOIDES.

cancellati, aut scrobiculis excavati;

Sex pila erumpentes; PHALLUS.

L'ex pila non erumpentes; MERULIUS. echinati; ERINACEUS.

in pulverem abeuntes; LYCOPERDON. folidi,

§ cauliferi ; CHANTERELLA.

fessiles,

s calyciformes; PEZICA.

non calyciformes,

Sin longitudinem producti; DIGITELLUS. horizontaliter prodeuntes; AGARICUS.

Csubterranei; TUBER.

According to this Method of mine, as well as that of the Editor of Ray's Synopsis, the Plant in Question will be a Boletus: And, as I do not think it necessary to constitute a new Genus, I have taken the Liberty to call it

BOLETUS caule ramoso; summitatibus concavis expansis; ramis minoribus in acutum mucronem de-

sinentibus. Vide TAB. II. Fig. 1.

